



A Study on Assessment of Relationship between Blood Glucose and Serum Lipids in Patients of Dyslipidemia Receiving Atorvastatin

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Abstract

Background: Atorvastatin and Lovastatin the most commonly used lipid lowering impair glucose tolerance; Simvastatin reduces insulin secretion while Pravastatin has been shown to increase adiponectin, improving insulin sensitivity and inhibiting gluconeogenesis. For these reasons, in February 2012 the United States Food and Drug Administration mandated labeling changes for all statins except Pravastatin. Objective of the study was to study the relationship between blood glucose and serum lipids in patients of Dyslipidemia receiving Atorvastatin

Methods: A prospective, single center study that was conducted in of total of 60 subjects. Newly diagnosed patients suffering from dyslipidemia, according to NCEP ATP III Guidelines (National Cholesterol Education Program, Adult Treatment Panel III). These are divided in 2 groups (n= 30 each). GROUP 1-patients having dyslipidemia with type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and GROUP 2-patients having dyslipidemia without Diabetes Mellitus.

Conclusion: With the results of present study 10 mg/day of Atorvastatin for 6 months did not affect FBG or PPBG in Non-diabetic patients significantly, but there was a significant deterioration in the blood glucose control - fasting and post-prandial, in the diabetic patients after 6 months and 3 months of drug use respectively. Atorvastatin 10 mg is an effective hypolipidemic drug and has adequate lipid lowering effects in diabetic and non-diabetics

Key Words: Atorvastatin, Dyslipidemia, blood glucose, serum lipids, correlation.

Introduction

“Dyslipidemia” refers to the derangements of one or many of the lipoproteins; elevations of Total Cholesterol (TC), Low Density Lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol and/or Triglycerides (TG), or low levels

of High-Density Lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol while elevation of lipoproteins alone is labeled as “hyperlipidemia”. Atherogenic dyslipidemia refers to a combination of elevated triglycerides and small-dense LDL particles, and low levels of HDL-

cholesterol^[1]. Dyslipidemia is an important major risk factor for Coronary Heart Disease (CHD), which is the leading cause of death. The World Health Organization estimates that dyslipidemia is associated with more than half of global cases of ischemic heart disease and more than 5.6 million deaths per year^[2]. Prevalence of dyslipidemia is high among Indians; it has been increasing steadily over the past few decades. A study by Chandra K S et al concludes that the prevalence of dyslipidemia was associated with low HDL cholesterol and this occurrence was unusually high among patients undergoing coronary artery bypass surgery^[3]. There are ample studies that have established a direct relationship between dyslipidemia, cardiovascular disease, and diabetes mellitus^[2]. Atherogenic dyslipidemia is particularly common in South Asians and has been shown to have a strong association with type 2 diabetes mellitus and Coronary Vascular Disease (CVD), which are the part of the well-known metabolic syndrome. Collaborative Atorvastatin Diabetes Study (CARDS) was conducted in nearly 3000 patients with type 2 diabetes Mellitus, were randomized to Atorvastatin (10 mg) group and placebo group. Atorvastatin reduced the number of major cardiovascular events by 37% and the rate of stroke by 48%^[2]. In animal models, it showed that Atorvastatin and Lovastatin impair glucose tolerance; Simvastatin reduces insulin secretion while Pravastatin has been shown to increase adiponectin, improving insulin sensitivity and inhibiting gluconeogenesis^[4]. For these reasons, in February 2012 the United States Food and Drug Administration mandated labeling changes for all statins except Pravastatin^[5]. Atorvastatin and other statin medications may increase the risk of type 2 diabetes compared to those who did not use the medications. A study by Carter AA et al higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes with Atorvastatin and it also shows that Subjects treated with Atorvastatin were found to have 22% elevated risk of new-onset diabetes, 18% elevated risk with Rosuvastatin, and 10% increased risk with use of Simvastatin. In contrast, participants treated with Fluvastatin were at a 5% lower risk and Lovastatin a 1% lower risk of

developing type 2 diabetes. The crude event rate for incident diabetes was highest for Atorvastatin (30.70 outcomes per 1000 person years)^[4]. Another study by Culver A Let al suggested that older women who were taking statins, those who were in menopause, had a higher risk of developing diabetes^[6]

Therefore this study was designed to assess the alterations in glycemic control due to Atorvastatin with the aim of finding effective therapeutic choice considering drug and dose. None of the study has explained the correlation between rise in blood glucose level and fall in serum lipid level.

Aim and Objectives

1. To study the effect of Atorvastatin on blood glucose level and serum lipid level.
2. To study the correlation between fall in serum lipid level and rise in blood glucose level.
3. To define a relationship that can strike a balance between optimum changes in lipid level while minimizing the changes in blood glucose level.

Materials and Methods

Study was a prospective, single centre study conducted in a B.J. Govt. Medical College and Sassoon General Hospital, Pune. Institutional Ethics Committee approval was obtained (BJMC/IEC/Pharmac/D-1013126)

Total of 60 subjects were enrolled by purposive sample technique from patients attending the medicine- Diabetes and Hypertension outpatient department (OPD) (Figure-1). A written informed consent was obtained from each subject. Patients of either sex in the age group of 35-60 who were newly diagnosed cases of dyslipidemia were included in study. These patients were screened for presence of dyslipidemia on the basis of laboratory investigations or prior records of the same. Diagnosis of dyslipidemia was done according to NCEP ATP III Guideline (2009 Revision of NCEP Adult Treatment Panel III Guidelines) (National Cholesterol Education Program, Adult Treatment Panel III) (LDL-C \geq 130 mg/dl, Total cholesterol-

TC \geq 200 mg/dl, Triglyceride $>$ 150 mg/dl, deranged VLDL) [7]. Patients who fulfilled the study inclusion criteria were enrolled for the trial. Women who are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, breast feeding women, patients with Type 1 diabetes mellitus, severe diabetes (fasting blood glucose $>$ 300mg) and patients with diabetic ketoacidosis were excluded from the study. These were divided into –

Group-I: Diabetic patients with dyslipidemia; receiving Atorvastatin 10 mg OD at night, receiving standard treatment for diabetes mellitus {Metformin (500 mg O.D.) and one Sulfonylurea (e.g. Glimepiride – 2 mg O.D.) } over last 6 months .

Group-2: Non diabetic patients with dyslipidemia; receiving Atorvastatin 10 mg OD, receiving standard treatment for hypertension (Tab. Amlodipine 10 mg O.D. only).

(Where diagnosis of diabetes mellitus was done if fasting blood glucose level more than 126 mg/dl and Postprandial blood glucose level more than 200 md/dl)

Figure 1: Consort chart for the study

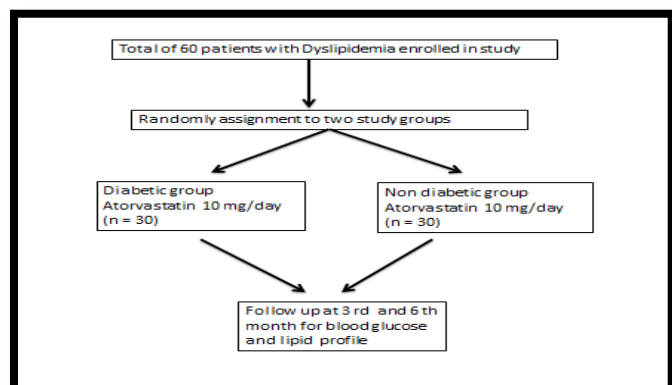
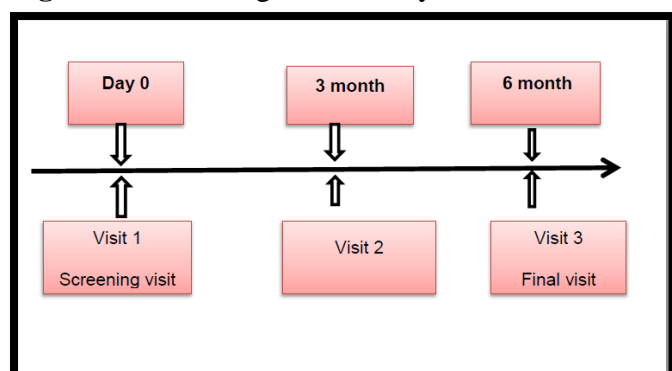


Figure 2: Flow diagram of study:



Plan of Study was as shown in Figure-2. At visit 0 (screening visit) the demographic data, like age, weight, height and BMI was recorded. Blood

samples were collected for estimation blood glucose (fasting and two hour post-prandial) and lipid profile (LDL, HDL, TG, TC, LDL/ HDL, VLDL) at visit 0 (screening visit), visit 1 (three months from baseline) and at visit 2 (6 months from baseline).

Laboratory Investigations [8]:

The blood samples collected at respective visits were analyzed immediately and those that were not processed immediately were capped and stored at -200c until further analysis. Fasting Blood Glucose (FBG) and post-prandial blood glucose (PPBG) by glucose oxidase method using STAR Diagnostic Kit, Batch no.-E1486, Manufacture date: May 2014 and Expiry date: April 2016. Serum was used for estimation of lipid profile. Total Cholesterol (TC), Low Density Lipoprotein (LDL), High Density Total Cholesterol estimated by using STAR Diagnostic Kit, Batch no.-E -1560, Manufacture date: March 2014, Expiry date: August 2016. HDL Cholesterol estimated by using STAR Diagnostic Kit. Batch no.-DHC-141005, Manufacture date: November 2014, Expiry date: January 2016. Triglyceride was estimated by using Autozyme Diagnostic Kit, Batch no.-3605 T, Manufacture date: February 2014, Expiry date: October 2015. Then the LDL/HDL ratio was calculated.

Data was expressed as change in each parameter that was calculated by subtracting value of visit 3 from visit 1 i.e. baseline (value at visit 3 – value at visit 1). Percent change was also calculated with respect to baseline value.

Statistical Analysis

The demographic data like age, weight, height, BMI and biochemical parameters presented as mean + 2 standard deviation. (Table-1)

Baseline readings i.e. visit 1 were compared with that visit 2 (3 month from baseline) and at visit 3 (6 month from baseline) respectively. The visit 2 (3 month from baseline) readings were compared with that of visit 3 (6 month from baseline). This statistical analysis was done for both groups i.e. diabetic and non-diabetic separately. The intra group comparisons that were done in diabetic as well as non-diabetic for biochemical parameters like blood

glucose level and lipid profile variations, were analyzed using paired student's t test.

The intergroup comparisons for diabetic and non-diabetic group for biochemical parameters like blood glucose level and lipid profile variations were done using the unpaired student's t test.

Graph pad prism 6 and Microsoft excel 2010 were used to do the statistical analysis. The Pearson's correlation co-efficient was applied to analyze the correlation between variations in lipid profile and blood glucose level in each; diabetic and non-diabetic group respectively.

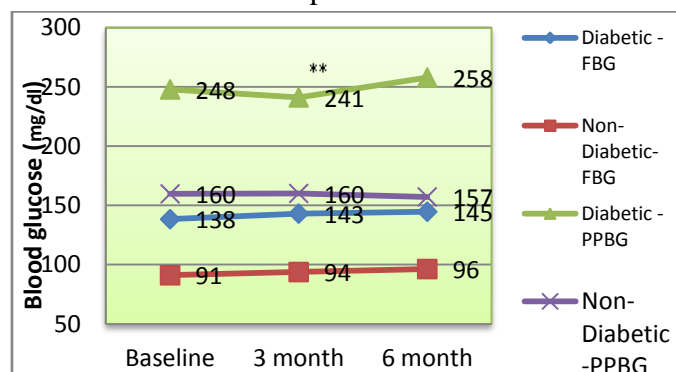
Results

As shown in Table-1, the two groups receiving Atorvastatin were similar in terms of baseline characteristics as regards the demographic data and lipid profile (TC , LDL ,HDL, TG, VLDL and LDL/HDL ratio) (p value > 0.05). There was a statistically significant difference in the diabetic group (group-1) and non-diabetic group (group-II) as regards the FBG and PPBG (p value<0.0001).

In diabetic group receiving Atorvastatin, only when baseline FBG values were compared with that at 6 month there was a significant rise in the reading (p=0.0021). Whereas, when the baseline FBG values were compared with 3 months and 3 months values compared with 6 months there was no significant change observed in the diabetic group. When baseline PPBG values were compared with that at 3months and 6 month respectively there was a significant rise in the reading (p-value = 0.0052 and p-value = 0.0054 respectively). (Figure-3) But when the PPBG values at 3 months were compared with 6 months there was no significant change observed in this group. Therefore non-diabetic group did not show any significant change in FBG when their values at baseline they were compared with that at visit 2 and visit 2 values compared with visit 3. (Figure-3).When similar comparisons were done in the non-diabetic group receiving Atorvastatin, it was observed that though there were trends in increase in the FBG yet this was not statistically significant and also the PPBG was not altered much .In diabetic group receiving Atorvastatin, only when baseline FBG values were

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Figure 3: Effect of Atorvastatin on Fasting and post-prandial Blood Glucose (mg/dl) in Diabetic and Non-Diabetic Group



Figures are expressed as mean values±2SD.*p-value<0.0021 when baseline FBG values compared with FBG values at 6 months.** p-value<0.0052 when baseline PPBG values compared with PPBG values at 3 months.*** p-value<0.0054 when baseline PPBG values compared with PPBG values at 6 months.

Figure 4 shows effect of Atorvastatin on serum lipid level in Diabetic patients. When baseline values of each - TC, TG, LDL,VLDL and LDL/HDL were compared with their respective values at 3 and 6 months respectively, there was a statically

significant decrease from the baseline regarding each lipid parameter (p-value < 0.005). Only when the LDL/HDL ratio and LDL values at 3 months were compared with their respective values at 6 months a statistically significant decrease was noticed. (p-value < 0.005). When the HDL values at baseline were compared with that at 3 months and 6 months respectively, a significant fall in the levels was observed (p-value < 0.003 and 0.0391 respectively). On the contrary when HDL levels values at 3 months were compared to that at 6 months there was a transient non-significant increase.

Figure 5 shows effect of Atorvastatin on serum lipid level in Non-Diabetic patients. When baseline values of each - TC, TG, LDL, VLDL and LDL/HDL were compared with their respective values at 3 and 6 months respectively, there was a statically significant decrease from the baseline regarding each lipid parameter (p-value < 0.005). Only when the LDL/HDL ratio, LDL and TC values at 3 months were compared with their respective values at 6 months a statistically significant decrease was noticed. (p-value < 0.005). When the HDL values at baseline were compared with that at 6 months and values at 3 months were compared to that at 6 months respectively, a significant rise in the levels was observed (p-value = 0.0002 and 0.007 respectively).

Figure 4: Effect of Atorvastatin on lipid parameter (TC, TG, LDL, HDL, LDL/HDL, VLDL) (mg/dl) in Diabetic Group

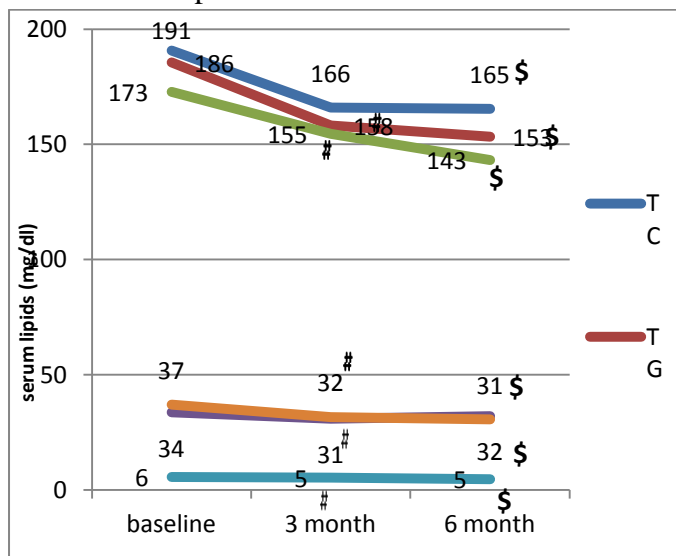
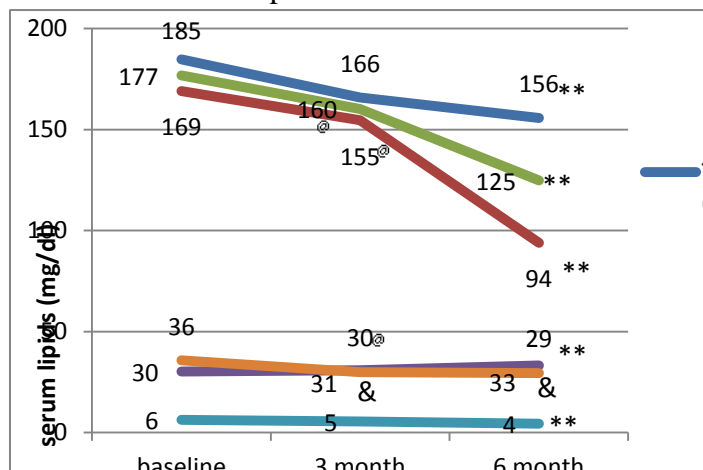


Table 1. Baseline characteristics of the study population

Figures are expressed as mean values±2SD only. # p-value < 0.005 when baseline values were compared with 3 month values. \$ p-value < 0.005 when baseline values were compared with 6 month values

Figure 5: Effect of Atorvastatin on lipid parameter (TC, TG, LDL, HDL, LDL/HDL, VLDL) (mg/dl) in Non-Diabetic Group



Figures are expressed as mean values±2SD only. @ p-value < 0.005 when baseline values were compared with 3 month values. ** p-value < 0.005 when baseline values were compared with 6 month values. Significant rise in HDL values as, & p-value < 0.0002 when 3 month values were compared with that at 6 months and also baseline compared to 6 months.

When the various lipid parameters and FBG levels in the diabetic and non-diabetic groups were subjected to statistical tests for Pearson's coefficient of correlation. It was noted that in the Diabetic group, there was significant negative correlation between FBG and LDL/HDL ratio at 3 month. Similarly the positive correlation between FBG and HDL at baseline in non-diabetic group. (Table 2) When the various lipid parameters and PPBG levels in the diabetic and non-diabetic groups were subjected to statistical tests for Pearson's coefficient of correlation. It was noted that when PPBG was compared with HDL, a statistically significant positive correlation found at 3 month. (Table 3)

Groups		Diabetic Group (n= 30) (Group-I)	Non-Diabetic Group (n=30) (Group-II)	p-value
Parameter				
Age (years)		52.87 ± 1.86	52.60 ± 1.43	0.9101
Gender	Males n (%)	20 (66.66%)	19 (63.33%)	0.7866
	Females n (%)	10 (33.34%)	11 (36.67%)	
Weight (kg)		71.57± 6.75	65 ± 11.59	0.0651
Height (cm)		164.2+5.62	155.8+4.91	0.0883
FBG (mg/dl)		138.4+13.33	91.13+13.60	< 0.0001**
PPBG (mg/dl)		247.9+35.16	159.8+20.30	< 0.0001**
Serum TC (mg/dl)		190.6+27.05	184.5+32.05	0.4316
Serum LDL (mg/dl)		172.7+29.13	178.8+28.76	0.7872
Serum HDL (mg/dl)		33.70+11.02	30.23+8.47	0.1772
LDL/HDL Ratio		5.65+1.98	6.19+1.89	0.2858
VLDL (mg/dl)		37.12+5.48	35.71+4.45	0.2868
TG (mg/dl)		185.5+27.42	178.6+22.26	0.2868

**p-value <0.05 is statistically significant. Values expressed as Mean± SEM. Normal values :FBG- Fasting Blood Glucose (75-110 mg/dl), PPBG -Postprandial Blood Glucose (70-120 mg/dl). Serum total cholesterol (TC) (<200 mg/dl), Serum low density lipoproteins (LDL)(<100 mg/dl), Serum HDL (<40 mg/dl -low)(60 mg/dl -high) , LDL/HDL Ratio normally 1.66 - 2.5, TG (30-200 mg/dl)

Table 2: Correlation coefficients between fasting blood glucose and serum lipids in diabetic and non-diabetic group

Parameter	Correlation	FBG and TC		FBG and TG		FBG and LDL		FBG and HDL		FBG and LDL/HDL		FBG and VLDL	
		DM	Non-DM	DM	Non-DM	DM	Non-DM	DM	Non-DM	DM	Non-DM	DM	Non-DM
Baseline	r	-0.11	0.08	-0.06	0.24	0.09	-0.17	-0.07	-0.37	0.13	0.18	-0.06	0.24
	p	0.55	0.66	0.73	0.21	0.63	0.36	0.73	0.04	0.50	0.33	0.73	0.21
3 month	r	-0.054	-0.01	0.25	0.28	0.14	-0.07	-0.29	-0.21	0.37	0.10	0.23	0.27
	p	0.78	0.95	0.18	0.14	0.46	0.71	0.12	0.26	0.04	0.59	0.22	0.15
6 month	r	-0.20	0.04	0.01	0.21	0.17	0.12	-0.06	-0.14	0.13	0.11	-0.04	0.21
	p	0.28	0.83	0.96	0.26	0.36	0.53	0.74	0.45	0.51	0.56	0.83	0.26

0p-value< 0.05 of Pearson’s coefficient of correlation is statistically significant for FBG correlation with HDL in non-diabetics.
 αp-value< 0.05 of Pearson’s coefficient of correlation statistically significant FBG correlation with LDL/HDL ratio in diabetics.

Table 3: Correlation coefficients between Post Prandial Blood Glucose (PPBG) and serum lipids in diabetic group and non-diabetic groups

Parameter Correlation		PPBG and TC		PPBG and TG		PPBG and LDL		PPBG and HDL		PPBG and LDL/HDL		PPBG and VLDL	
		DM	Non-DM	DM	Non-DM	DM	Non-DM	DM	Non-DM	DM	Non-DM	DM	Non-DM
Baseline	r	0.04	-0.04	-0.15	0.29	-0.01	-0.07	0.17	0.10	-0.09	-0.17	-0.18	0.29
	p	0.84	0.82	0.43	0.11	0.97	0.70	0.36	0.60	0.63	0.38	0.35	0.11
3 month	r	-0.06	0.05	-0.19	0.03	0.17	-0.17	0.36	0.06	-0.18	-0.18	-0.18	0.03
	p	0.75	0.81	0.33	0.87	0.37	0.37	0.05* *	0.75	0.35	0.35	0.33	0.88
6 month	r	-0.1	0.08	0.06	-0.03	0.14	-0.11	0.07	0.07	0.03	-0.16	0.03	-0.03
	p	0.56	0.67	0.77	0.87	0.47	0.58	0.73	0.70	0.86	0.39	0.89	0.86

**p-value = 0.05 of Pearson’s coefficient of correlation is statistically significant for PPBG correlation with HDL in diabetics.

Discussion

Dyslipidemia is a primary major risk factor for Coronary Artery Disease (CAD). American Association of Clinical Endocrinologist (AACE) recommends ‘Statins’ as the drug of choice for LDL cholesterol reduction on the basis of findings from morbidity and mortality in certain outcome trial [9]. High-dosage therapy also significantly reduces nonfatal MI, stroke, unstable angina, and revascularization risk [9,10]. Diabetes mellitus also increases cardiovascular risk to the extent that it is considered a CAD risk equivalent [11]. In fact certain studies point out that the risk of myocardial infarction in patients with diabetes mellitus without a history of myocardial infarction is as high as that in patients without diabetes mellitus who had myocardial infarction [12]. Secondary prevention statin studies such as HPS (Heart Protection Study) showed that there is significant risk reduction among patients with diabetes. Diabetes affects virtually all lipids and lipoproteins and dyslipidemia is a consistent finding in people with type 2 diabetes. Patients with type 2 diabetes also tend to have a preponderance of atherogenic small dense LDL [13-15]

In the present study 60 diagnosed cases of dyslipidemia – 30 in Diabetic Group and 30 in Non-diabetic Group, who as per clinician, were deemed to receive Atorvastatin 10 mg OD and

these cases were studied for the period of 6 month for their effect on FBG and PPBG, lipid profile marker i.e. TC, TG, LDL, HDL, LDL/HDL and VLDL. The Diabetic Group showed mean age 52.87 years and Non-diabetic Group showed mean age 52.60 years when both groups were compared for age. No statistically significant difference was found in both groups. A study conducted by Tadashi Yamakawa et al [16] showed mean age as 59.7 years in Diabetic Group. Therefore the occurrence of type-2 Diabetes is noted earlier in this study and is probably attributed to the ethnic variation in population and a high average Body Mass Index (BMI) in the diabetic group. The average BMI was 28.98 in diabetic group in the present study which was higher when compared to the finding by Risto et al [17] who reported an average BMI of 24.9 in 67 diabetic patients. Both diabetic and non-diabetic group showed statistically insignificant increase in mean FBG levels from baseline to three months and also from 3 month to 6 month. (p> 0.05). Only the diabetic group showed statistically significant increase in mean FBG levels at 6 month (p=0.0021) when the values were compared to that at baseline values. A study by Murakami et al [18] showed that after Atorvastatin 5 mg for 3 month 99 or 10 mg for 2 month use resulted in significant increase in mean FBG in Diabetic patients, whereas in present study Atorvastatin (10mg/day) for 6 months

resulted in significant rise in mean FBG in diabetic group only. A study by Sukhija et al ^[19] showed that in non-diabetics, mean FBG increased with statin use from 98 mg/dl to 105 mg/dl and in diabetics, mean FBG increased with statin use from 102 mg/dl to 141 mg/dl i.e. statistically significant increase in mean FBG with statin use ($p < 0.0001$). So the statin use was associated with a rise of mean FBG in patients with and without diabetes at 2 years. These findings are contradictory to that of the present study probable reason being that alteration in mean FBG and PPBG in non-diabetic patients was noted for a shorter duration of just 6 months.

In present study, as regards to the change in mean PPBG levels at all visits; in non-diabetic group there was no statistical significant change ($p > 0.05$). On the contrary, Diabetic group showed statistically significant increase in mean PPBG levels from baseline to 3 months and 6 month. ($p = 0.0052$ and $p=0.0054$ respectively). This increase was also observed from 3 month to 6 month ($p=0.0021$). Therefore despite of giving the standard treatment for diabetes; in this population there was a significant rise in mean PPBG values over every 3 months and there was deterioration of glycemic control due to Atorvastatin 10 mg. A multi-centric randomized control trial conducted by Sabitine M.S. et al ^[18] concluded that high dose of Atorvastatin (80 mg/day) might deteriorate glycemic control.

Important reasons for worsening of blood glucose were studied by Tadashi Y et al ^[16] like Statins can compromise glycemic control by decreasing level of metabolites such as isoprenoid, geranylgeranyl pyrophosphate, ubiquin. Isoprenoid is known to enhance glucose uptake by up regulating the membrane transporter protein glucose transporter 4, which has role in glucose uptake by adipocytes. Another reason could be the increased production of plasma derived LDL cholesterol as a compensatory response to de novo cholesterol synthesis inhibition might result in direct inflammation and oxidation within the β cell. The functional and structural integrity of β cells is

compromised, impairing insulin secretion as a result of cellular apoptosis.

Another study by Sattar N. et al ^[20] showed that statin therapy was associated with a 9% increased risk for incident diabetes i.e. statin therapy is associated with a slightly increased risk of development of diabetes. Such observation were not made as in the present study, a single dose of 10 mg of Atorvastatin was used which was less than the dose used by Sattar N. et al. Conflicting result was presented by another multi-centric randomized trial studied by Sever P.S et al ^[20] who studied that Atorvastatin was not associated with development of diabetes mellitus. An interesting study by Huptas S. et al ^[21] showed that Atorvastatin 10 mg/day resulted in significant reduction in mean FBG level and borderline reduction of insulin in diabetic patients.

In present study, a significant negative co-relation was observed between mean FBG and HDL in non-diabetic patients receiving Atorvastatin 10mg/day ($r = -0.37$, $p=0.04$). It is due to the non-significant change in mean FBG along with a steady significant rise in mean HDL from baseline in this group. In the Diabetic group receiving Atorvastatin 10mg/day a significant positive co-relation was observed between mean FBG and mean LDL/HDL ratio at 3 months ($r=0.37$, $p=0.04$). This is possibly due to little fall in LDL along with significant fall in HDL hence altering the ratio. This positively co-related to the significant rise in mean FBG with the use of Atorvastatin. An interesting finding was the positive correlation ($r=0.36$, $p=0.05$) between mean PPBG levels and mean HDL levels noted in the Diabetic group at 3 months. This is due to the transient non-significant rise in mean HDL levels from 3 months to 6 months along with the significant rise in mean PPBG levels in this group. Other correlations between blood sugar levels and lipid parameters were not significant. Many investigators have tried to explore the physiological co-relation between such parameters in diabetic patients. Reddy S.A. et al ^[22] investigated the correlation between lipid parameter and glycemic control in diabetic patients with

dyslipidemia not on any medication. Results of that study stated that the FBG has direct correlation with TC, TG and LDL but it was insignificantly correlated with HDL. A study by Zhang L et al^[23] showed that FBG exhibited direct correlations with cholesterol, TG and LDL and inverse correlation with HDL ($p < 0.05$). In the present study the Atorvastatin in a dose of 10 mg had a lipid lowering effect in diabetics but also caused deterioration of glycemic control therefore results of the previous studies cannot be extended to this current study. In fact in the diabetic group the maximum lipid lowering effect of Atorvastatin (10 mg) was achieved by the third week itself as not significant fall in lipid parameters were seen when their mean values at 3 months were compared with that at 6 months. But the deterioration of FBG and PPBG due to Atorvastatin (10 mg) was seen in these patients at 3 months and 6 months as compared to baseline values

Conclusion

With the results of present study 10 mg/day of Atorvastatin for 6 months did not affect FBG or PPBG in Non-diabetic patients significantly, but there was a significant deterioration in the blood glucose control - fasting and post-prandial, in the diabetic patients after 6 months and 3 months of drug use respectively. Atorvastatin 10 mg is an effective hypolipidemic drug and has adequate lipid lowering effects in diabetic and non-diabetics. Only one important finding was that it also significantly decreased HDL in diabetics after 3 months of use which is not a welcome effect. Ceiling hypolipidemic action of Atorvastatin 10 mg was obtained in Diabetes patients at 3 months and was maintained upto the end of study period. But the deterioration of glycemic control started after 3 months and significantly worsened till the end of study period i.e 6 months. Therefore treating physicians should advise routine monitoring of blood glucose in patients on Atorvastatin atleast 3 months if non-diabetic. They should also try to titrate down the dose of Atorvastatin after 3 months of treatment in diabetic patient (if clinically permissible) while

maintaining the optimum hypolipidemic effect and minimal alteration in glycemic control.

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